

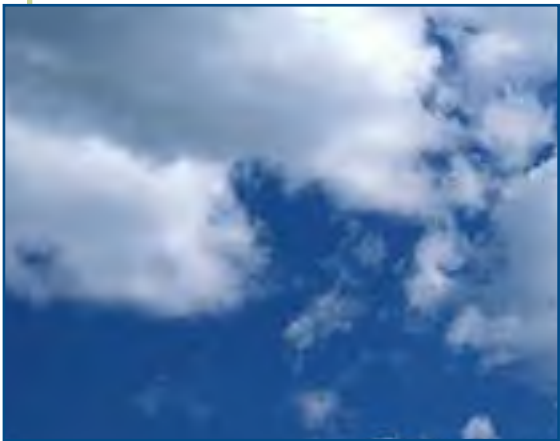
Brief newsletter

April | 2006

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1 **Chula Vista Selected for Energy Center**

The City has signed an agreement to establish a national energy research center that will transform Chula Vista into a living laboratory for energy research and demonstration projects. Working with several high profile partners, including the U.S. Department of Energy, the City will become a showcase for new technologies and "energy smart" urban planning. The center will be built on the site of Chula Vista's new University Park and Research Center.



"This partnership will play a key role in securing our energy future," said Chula Vista Mayor Stephen C. Padilla. "This research has the potential to substantially reduce our community's energy consumption and that means cleaner air and better use of our natural resources."

In creating the new National Energy Center for Sustainable Communities, Chula Vista will partner with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE); the Illinois-based Global Energy Center at GTI; and the Center for Energy Studies and Environmental Sciences at San Diego State University.

2 **Council Workshop on Montgomery**

Chula Vista's Montgomery area will be the focus of a special City Council workshop April 6. During the session, City staff will update both the Council and residents about neighborhood improvements—past, present and future.

Although millions of dollars have been spent to improve infrastructure and amenities in the west side neighborhood, Montgomery hasn't been able to catch up with the rest of Chula Vista's growth and development. Before its 1985 annexation to Chula Vista, the Montgomery area was served and managed by the county of San Diego.

The workshop will be an opportunity for City staff to share information with the Council and area residents about what has changed over the past 20 years including construction of a new library and recreation center and improved drainage systems.

The meeting is in Council Chambers and begins at 6 p.m. Spanish-speaking residents will be assisted by an interpreter.

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3 Village Walk at EastLake

Look for Trader Joe's and Border's bookstore to open next year in Village Walk at EastLake. Construction of the upscale boutique-style commercial center is already underway, and the list of tenants is impressive. Enjoy several restaurants including the Brigantine, La Jolla Brewhouse and Broken Yolk. In addition, Joe Busalacchi, one of the region's most high profile

restaurateurs, will be opening his first Chula Vista location—Via Lago Trattoria. Rounding out the 166,000 square foot center will be Petco, Pier 1, the Coffee Bean, and a new concept Henry's market. Shoppers will appreciate the elegance of the Tuscan architecture and enjoy all the extra touches including rose gardens, fountains, art, and stone walkways.

4 Harborside Park Dedication



Join the fun April 29, when the community turns out to celebrate the dedication of Harborside Park. It's the first new park built in western Chula Vista in more than 25 years. Harborside Park is a five-acre retreat for neighborhood residents—a place for family picnics,

skateboarding or a game of basketball. Students at nearby Harborside Elementary School will be able to take advantage of everything the park offers including a unique outdoor classroom.

Construction on the five-acre site began last June. Located along the north side of Oxford Street between Broadway and Industrial Boulevard, Harborside Park is the first public park with a master plan developed in-house by City staff. At a series of community meetings, residents shared their ideas about the park's design, and many of their suggestions were incorporated into the final plans. (670 Oxford Street)

5 Save Your Energy

You're invited to a Lighting Exchange Saturday, May 13 at the South Chula Vista Branch Library. Between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., City residents can trade in their old incandescent light bulbs and halogen torchiere floor lamps for new energy-efficient models for free. Each household is limited to five incandescent bulbs (75 watts or higher) and two torchiere floor lamps. To be eligible, you must present a valid California driver's

license or ID, and a current SDG&E bill. The library is located at 389 Orange Avenue. For more information, call SDG&E at 1-800-411-7343.



6 Wanted: City Volunteers

Help your community by becoming a volunteer. Select from a wide variety of choices including:

Senior Volunteer Patrol: Interested volunteers 50 years or older are being recruited as the official eyes and ears of the Chula Vista Police Department. Training and uniforms are provided for those who qualify. Join your neighbors and friends as they make a difference in their community. Request an application by calling (619) 476-2417.

Nature Center Docents: Free docent training will be

provided by the Chula Vista Nature Center March 4 through April 29. Docents are volunteer interpretive guides that assist staff with school visits, daily Discovery Center tours and weekend bird walks. For details, call Barbara Moore at (619) 409-5903.

Tutors: The Chula Vista Public Library is looking for adults to assist junior and senior high school students with homework assignments and exam preparation. Tutoring sessions are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. at two library locations. To sign up, call the Library Volunteer Coordinator at (619) 691-5000.

7 Sex Offenders Restricted

New restrictions on where registered sex offenders may live in Chula Vista have been approved by the City Council. The new ordinance, intended to protect children, prohibits sex offenders from moving within 500 feet of parks as well as elementary and middle schools. Violations are punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or six months in jail. The ordinance affects registered sex offenders whose crime involved a minor.

Council member John McCann, a strong supporter of the new restrictions, described the ordinance as a "good first step."

Visit the CVPD's home page for a link to the Megan's Law website, which provides information about where registered sex offenders live in your community.

8 Fire Safety Classroom on Wheels

Chula Vista firefighters are taking their fire safety message on the road. Soon, they'll be bringing a new interactive tool—a "fire safety house" on wheels—to an elementary school near you.

Inside a large mobile trailer with stadium seating, are reproductions of two rooms in which most residential fires start—a bedroom and kitchen. The Chula Vista Fire Department will drive home its safety message using fire-breathing pots, flaming trashcans, heated door handles and blazing fireplaces—all

simulated, of course.

"The majority of fires that kill or injure children are residential fires," according to Chula Vista Fire Chief Doug Perry. "We're bringing this traveling classroom to elementary school students throughout the City."



9 Transit Changes

Bus passengers should be aware that the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) is preparing for significant changes to the Chula Vista Transit System, starting in September. While a few routes will be eliminated because of low ridership, other services will be expanded. Buses



will run every 15 minutes of the day on the 701, 709 and 712. A convenient direct connection to Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center will be added to the schedule.

Route 712 will be extended to include Otay Ranch and Southwestern College. And buses will run more often along a revised Route 704. For more information about Chula Vista bus routes, go to **www.sdcommute.com** and click on COA.

10 Election Update

Don't forget to register by May 23 in order to cast your ballot in the upcoming election. Remember that voters who have changed their name or address are required to re-register. If you're unable to vote on Election Day, June 6, consider mailing in an absentee

ballot or vote early in person by dropping by the Registrar of Voter's Office between May 31 and June 6. Absentee ballot applications are available at **www.sdvote.com**, the Registrar's Web site.

11 Enjoying Taste of the Arts

Mark your calendar now for Chula Vista's premier event—the Taste of the Arts festival on Sunday, May 21! This year's festival starts at 10 a.m. and offers a fantastic lineup of artists, live music and dance entertainment in beautiful Bayside Park. More than 30 featured artists will display and sell everything from pottery and paintings to baskets and bronzes.

Enjoy music and dance entertainment on three stages. A Pops concert by the San Diego Chamber Orchestra titled "Americana" headlines the special event. Add the smooth jazz sound of Fattburger and the passion of Tango Alma to round out the musical highlights of the day's festivities. Jugglers, giant puzzles, clay creations

and painting are some of the fun activities for kids.

Check the Web site at **www.chulavistaca.gov** for the entertainment schedule and list of participating artists.



contact

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